

NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON, D.C.

PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEE

JOHN CERVASE, PUBLISHER



DO YOU WANT GIBSON OR SHAPIRO TO BE YOUR GOVERNOR?

There is little choice between Mayor Gibson of Newark and Essex County Executive Peter Shapiro. They both want to be governor of New Jersey. Gibson, a Black, and Shapiro, white, have one thing in common. They are both radicals in sheep's clothing! I would not trust either one as far as I could throw him. Which one presents a greater danger to society is a tossup.

Shapiro, in his high school and college days, was a student-radical. At age 32 he is not far removed from that era in his life. He agitated students who burned and spit upon the American flag and he led demonstrations that disrupted the educational atmosphere of schools which his followers attended. He was an admirer of Mark Rudd and Abby Hoffman who advocated: "Kill your parents," who disrupted a national convention in Chicago by throwing buckets of urine and human excrement out of hotel windows on convention delegates. He wore the radical clothes of the times and sloganeered with the worst of the radicals against government, the establishment and society in general which they hoped to radically change. Today he is a conservative model in a three piece suit and tie.

Today, as county executive, Shapiro is in a position to do damage as governor. He would be more of a threat. Are you thinking of voting for him? Think again.

As for Gibson, more could be said. But suffice it to say that prior to the riots of the sixties, before he became mayor, he was Leroy Jones' lap dog. When he became mayor in 1970 with the major help of Leroy, Jones became the power behind the throne, the marionetteer who pulled the strings while Gibson went through his act of being mayor and Africanizing City Hall.

Prior to the Newark riot in July, 1967, I was a member of the Newark Board of Education. Gibson, Jones and Harry Wheeler, a confessed embezzler, came to a public meeting of the board and made impossible demands. They threatened me and fellow-board members and Wheeler stated: "If our demands are not met, blood will flow in the streets of Newark". The riot broke out one week later. The rioters did millions in damage to public buildings and business places, started fires and killed and wounded innocent people.

A curfew was declared and Jones was caught violating the curfew with guns in his vehicle and on his person. He was tried and convicted. He called the judge, court and jury, a kangaroo court. He was sentenced to jail, but won his appeal on a technicality. In his appeal, he did not allege that the jury verdict was contrary to the evidence. He appealed on a technicality and got away with it.

Gibson, himself, was twice indicted by a grand jury and tried but got away with it too. His twelve years as mayor have been peppered with city hall scandal!

He rewarded Wheeler with a \$50,000 job as #2 man in the city after Gibson leaves office.